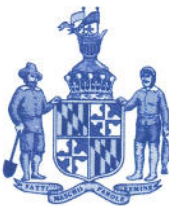


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For Immediate Release

June 18, 2009

**FORMER CITY ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT
PLEADS GUILTY**

State Prosecutor, Robert A. Rohrbaugh, has announced that the former City Administrator for the City of Seat Pleasant, Bryan Alston, pled guilty today to two counts of an eleven count indictment.

The Grand Jury of Prince George's County indicted Mr. Alston, 42, of Baltimore County, on Felony Theft, Counterfeiting, Issuance of False Documents and Misconduct in Office charges in February 2009. Today, Alston entered guilty pleas to two counts of the indictment, specifically, Counterfeiting / Forgery and Misconduct in Office. The State Prosecutors Office explained to the Court today that Alston converted a number of checks belonging to the City of Seat Pleasant to his own personal use without permission from City authorities to do so. Alston had two methods for doing so. First, he would take legitimate checks written and issued to vendors properly owed payment from the City, forge endorsements from those vendor companies and cash/deposit them into his personal bank account for his personal use. In one instance, he took a check from the City's ledger, making it payable to an actual vendor who regularly did business with the City so as not to arouse anyone's suspicion, and then forged both the Mayor's and Treasurer's signatures as payors on the front of the checks as well as the vendor's endorsement on the back. Again, he deposited this check into his personal bank account. The total amount taken from the City via these fraudulent checks was Three Thousand Five Hundred Forty-Two Dollars and Twenty-Eight Cents (\$3,542.28).

Mr. Alston in his capacity as the City Administrator for the City of Seat Pleasant was responsible for managing the day to day operations of the City. Specifically, Mr. Alston dealt directly with the City's various vendors, approved purchase requisitions, and had access to the City's checks. As such, he had both the opportunity and requisite knowledge to carry out this scheme.

The Court sentenced Mr. Alston, who has no prior criminal record, to one year incarceration, suspending all of it, and placed him on three years supervised probation. During the course of probation Alston must repay the City for the money he took. He presented a check for \$250.00 towards that end today in open court. Additionally, he must perform 200 hours of community service for his violation of the trust of the people of Seat Pleasant.

For further inquiries, contact Chief Investigator, James Cabezas at the State Prosecutor's Office.